

Application No. 10/727,246

April 20, 2005

Amendment responsive to Office Action of December 10, 2005

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1.(currently amended) A latch assembly control method, comprising the steps of:

integrating a latch assembly with a motor having at least one gear thereof for actuating a plurality of components of said latch assembly; and

associating a gear tooth sensor with said latch assembly, wherein said gear tooth sensor senses a position of said at least one gear, wherein said at least one gear completes less than one revolution ~~to thereby provide a known reference point registration and calibration of said latch assembly via data collected from said gear tooth sensor.~~

3.(currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein said latch assembly comprises a vehicle door latch assembly~~ further comprising the step of providing the latch assembly in a vehicle door.

7.(currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of calibrating via said vehicle management module, at least one component of said door latch assembly based on data collected from said gear tooth sensor.

9.(currently amended) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of actuating at least one component of said door latch assembly utilizing said vehicle management module based on data collected from said plurality of gear tooth sensor.

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11.(currently amended) A latch assembly control system, comprising:

a latch assembly integrated with a motor having at least one gear thereof for actuating a plurality of components of said latch assembly; and

a geartooth sensor associated with said latch assembly, wherein said geartooth sensor senses a position of said at least one gear, wherein said at least one gear completes less than one revolution ~~to thereby provide a known reference point registration and calibration of said latch assembly via data collected from said geartooth sensor.~~